This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide ~~A compound~~ 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human vitamin D nuclear receptor (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding human vitamin D nuclear receptor and inhibits the expression of human vitamin D nuclear receptor, and wherein the oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

2. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3. cancelled

4. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10. cancelled.

11. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide ~~A compound~~ 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein the oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

12. (currently amended) An oligonucleotide ~~A compound~~ comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (currently amended) The oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 1 so that expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor is inhibited.

16. (currently amended) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with vitamin D nuclear receptor comprising administering to said animal an ~~a therapeutically or prophylactically~~ effective amount of the oligonucleotide ~~compound~~ of claim 1 so that expression of vitamin D nuclear receptor is inhibited.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is cancer.

18. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is a developmental disorder.

19. (withdrawn) The compound of claim 1 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear reactor, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with and differentially inhibits the expression of one of the variants of vitamin D nuclear receptor relative to the remaining variants of vitamin D nuclear receptor.

20. (withdrawn) The compound of claims 19 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein said compound hybridizes with and specifically inhibits the expression of a variant of vitamin D nuclear receptor, wherein said variant is selected from the group consisting of VDR-type I, VDR-type II, VDR-type III and VDR-type IV.

21. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises a composite structure of two or more oligonucleotides, selected from oligoribonucleotides, oligodeoxynucleotides, modified oligonucleotides, oligonucleosides or oligonucleotide mimetics.

22. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

23. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 22 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

24. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

25. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 24 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

26. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

27. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 26 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

28. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 21 wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises at least one ribonucleotide and at least one deoxyribonucleotide.

29. (new) The oligonucleotide of claim 28, wherein the chimeric oligonucleotide comprises a central region of 2'-deoxynucleotides, a 5'-flanking region of 2'-O-methoxyethyl (2'-MOE) nucleotides, and a 3'- flanking region of 2'-O-methoxyethyl (2'-MOE) nucleotides.